

Dear Sir or Madam: The letter is to inform you of my emphatic, enthusiastic support for satellite radio continuing to provide local traffic and weather information as well as any other local programming that the industry finds profitable. I urge you to reject the National Association of Broadcasters' petition 04-160 that would hinder the satellite radio industry's efforts to expand its offerings to its subscribers.

In particular, XM Radio's provision of local weather and traffic information has been extremely useful to me in avoiding traffic jams and accidents and keeps me informed in a timely manner of local hazardous weather. This is a SAFETY ISSUE; satellite radio gives its subscribers up to the minute information that helps us avoid bad weather. It's ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY, too, because the traffic information has on several occasions prompted me to take an alternate route thereby avoiding sitting in a traffic jam with my engine running.

This is also a FREEDOM issue. Satellite radios users pay money to subscribe to the satellite service. We pay for it, we should be allowed to continue receiving whatever information we are willing to buy from the satellite radio providers. American citizens right to hear whatever we want should not be hindered by a paid corporate flunky protecting its own backside like the National Association of Broadcasters.

Let "terrestrial radio" compete of the merits of the service it provides. If it does a superior job and offers a superior service, it will have nothing to worry about from satellite radio. It is essential, though, to allow the satellite radio industry to provide local information to its subscribers.

Thank you,  
Tim Keeney  
Webster Groves, MO